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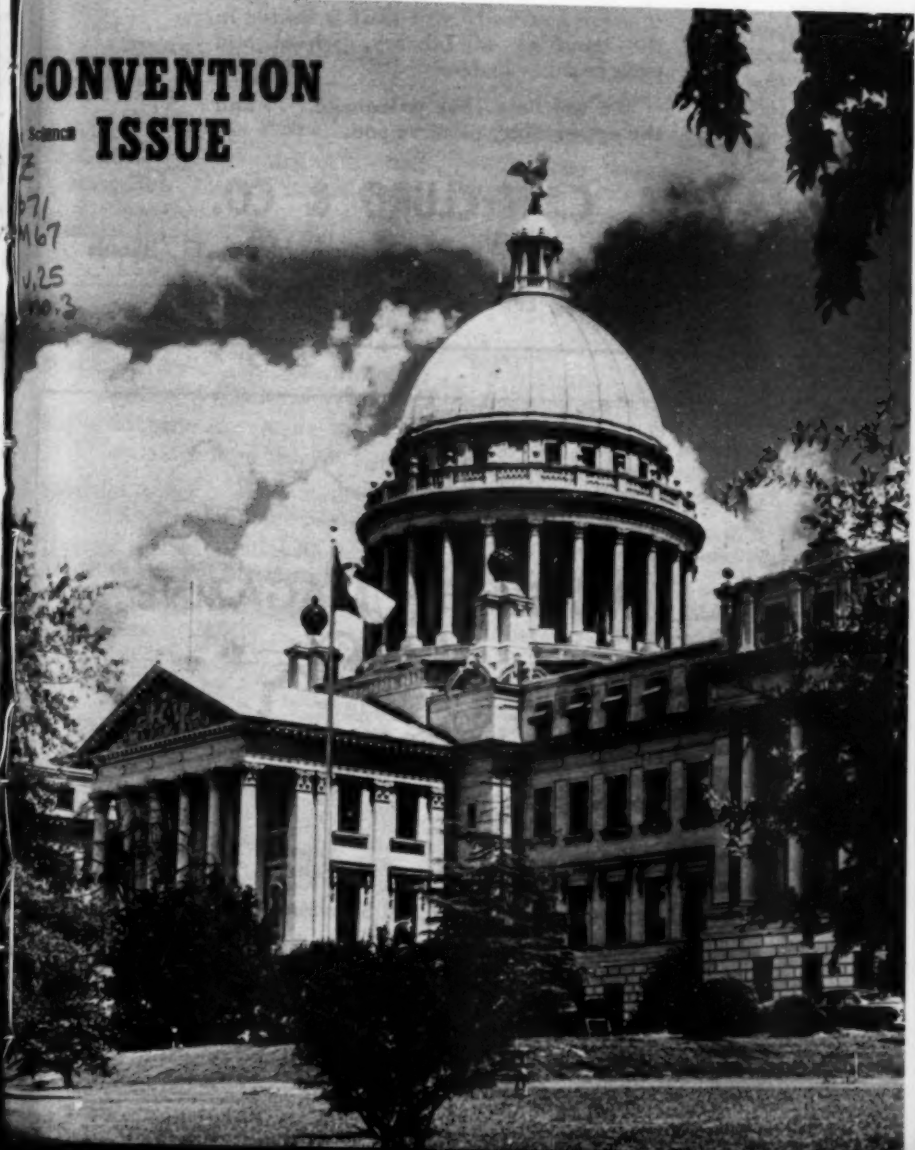
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**CONVENTION
ISSUE**

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Mississippi Library News

405 Woolfolk Bldg.
Jackson, Miss.

Vol. 25 September No. 3

Issued Quarterly By
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and
**MISSISSIPPI
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

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THE COVER

Mississippi's Capital City is to be host to the annual convention of the Mississippi Library Association. For more about convention plans, see Page 89.

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Editorial Comments . . .

NOTES ON THE CONVENTION

By Alan Skelton

This has been a busy year. Your Executive Board and other representatives have worked diligently. The convention program is shaping up nicely with numerous interesting sessions planned. To Glida Bethea go our thanks for this.

The big news this year is our membership. Recently we enrolled our 700th member. It's hard to realize that this is more than double the membership total less than five years ago. Your membership co-chairmen, Bea Ford and Louise Rayner, have done a superb job. Only a few of you have successfully evaded their pleas to join!

Elsewhere in this journal you will note proposals for action on the Constitution and Bylaws. Notice is given herein as required. Study the proposals of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee and vote your convictions at the convention.

EACH GENERATION LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

By Eunice Eley

Naturally, the subject uppermost in my mind since becoming a college librarian is education — how good it is, how good it should be, how responsible the institution is to those who come to be educated. Education may be a dull subject if thought of in the abstract. But when one is in the midst of the process, having a part, even a small part in the educational program, it gives cause for thought.

Everybody talks about education, oftentimes to criticize. The very excellent editorial of Paul Woodring in Saturday Review, Feb. 18, 1961, says in part: "Schools have always been targets of criticism. They have been attacked from the pulpit, in the press, and over a million dinner tables where the children report the day's events and grandparents respond with accounts of how much better things were in the old days when all children learned to spell and no one worried about Johnny's adjustment to his peer group."

Thus has it ever been; with each generation requiring more and better educational equipment, and with the present educational recipients never knowing that they are not the first to look starry-eyed into the future, with every hope and belief that the future will measure up to their rosy expectations. This is the joy of trying to help them to be better prepared to meet whatever is ahead for them.

Miss. Library Association

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION 1961 Convention Program

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

1:00 P. M. Registration

Exhibits Open

3:30- 5:00 P. M. Swap Shop

General Meeting — Groups divided for discussion into fields of interest

1. Reference and Bibliography

Leader: Willie Dee Halsell, Reference Library, Mississippi State University

2. Acquisition of Books

Leader: Turner Cassity, Librarian, Jackson Municipal Library

3. Work With Children

Leader: Mary Ellen Guess, Librarian, Jackson Elementary Schools

4. Cataloging

Leader: Mrs. Kay Cooley, Librarian, Millsaps College

5. Adult Services

Leader: Anona Jenkins, Librarian, Clarksdale Carnegie Public Library

6. Bookmobile Services

Leader: Mrs. Pauline Vaughn, Lincoln-Lawrence Regional Library

7. Administration

Leader: Mrs. Ruth Scharr, Librarian, Keesler Air Force Base

8. Problems of Trustees

Mrs. Roy King, Trustee, Brookhaven Public Library

7:30- 8:30 P. M. Buffet Supper

8:30- 9:30 P. M. First General Meeting

Presiding: Alan G. Skelton

Introduction of Speaker: Anna M. Roberts

"Developing Our Human Resources," Mrs. Florrinnell Morton, President, American Library Association

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

7:15- 8:30 A. M. Breakfast, Editorial Board of Mississippi Library News

Presiding: Mrs. C. C. Clark

9:00-10:00 A. M. Second General Meeting

Business Meeting

Presiding: Alan G. Skelton

10:00-11:00 A. M. Coffee Break — Among the Exhibits

11:00-12:15 P. M. Second General Meeting — Resumed

Presiding: Alan G. Skelton

Panel: "Reading For Living"

Moderator: Mrs. C. C. Clark, Mississippi Library Commission
Philip S. Ogilvie, Head Librarian, Jackson Municipal Library

E. J. Cazenave, Supervisor of College Relations and Employment Service, Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Co., Jackson

Robert Webb, Associate Editor, State Times, Jackson

- 1:00- 3:00 P. M. Trustees Section Luncheon and Open Meeting
Presiding: Mrs. Gordon White
Panel Discussion
Moderator: Mrs. Gordon White
Mrs. Thomas McCrary, Lowndes Co. Board of Trustees
R. H. Donald, Quitman Board of Trustees
Grady Thigpen, Jr., Picayune Board of Trustees
Mrs. Mose Allison, Tallahatchie Co. Board of Trustees
Mrs. O. B. Crocker, Dixie Region Board of Trustees
"The Commitment of the Trustee," Mrs. Weldon Lynch,
Chairman, American Association of Library Trustees

- 3:30- 4:30 P. M. Public Library Section
Business Meeting
Presiding: Bobby Outlaw
Program: "An Evaluation of the Workshops"

- 3:30- 4:30 P. M. School Library Section Business Meeting
Presiding: Mable Gaston

- 8:00 P. M. Banquet
Presiding: Alan G. Skelton
Invocation: The Rev. Vance Dyess
Introduction of Speaker: Dr. Sykes Hartin
"Jefferson Davis and the Excitement of Writing Biography,"
Hudson Strode, Author, Lecturer, World Traveler and
Educator

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

- 8:00- 9:30 A. M. College Section Breakfast
Business Meeting
Presiding: Mrs. Etta Pace
Program: "Challenges in Academic Library Education"
Sarah Rebecca Reed, Executive Secretary of the Library
Education Division, American Library Association

- 8:00- 9:30 A. M. Trustees Section Breakfast
10:00-11:00 A. M. Joint Meeting School and Public Librarians
Presiding: Mable Gaston
Introduction of Speaker: Alan G. Skelton
Program: "Reading"
Dr. Ralph S. Acker, Chief, Instructional Methods Branch,
U. S. Army Engineer School, Fort Belvoir, Virginia

- 12:00- 2:00 P. M. Special Library Section Luncheon
Business Meeting
Presiding: Mrs. Reba Sowell
Program: "The Librarians' New Tools"
Dr. Jesse H. Shera, Dean of School of Library Science,
Western Reserve, Cleveland, Ohio

VISIT THE EXHIBITS



Mrs. Florrinnell F. Morton, who will speak at the First General Meeting, Thursday evening, on the subject, "Developing Our Human Resources," is president of the American Library Association. A director and professor of the library school of Louisiana State University, Mrs. Morton is a native of Texas and makes her home in Baton Rouge, La. She received her education at West Texas State College; University of California; School of Library Service, Columbia University.



Dr. Jesse H. Shera, who is Dean of the Library School, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, is speaker for the special librarians' luncheon. Dr. Shera is a well-known lecturer and author and has served as U. S. delegate to UNESCO International Conference, Paris, 1950, and to the Conference on Bibliographic Classification, Dorking, England, 1957. He is a member of both the Chicago and the American special library associations, the Bibliography Society of America, The Mississippi Valley Historical Association and many professional organizations.

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Phil Ogilvie



Eugene Cazenave, Jr.



Robert Webb

Philip Smythe Ogilvie, who appears in this issue on Page —, is a member of the three-man panel who will discuss "Reading for Living" at the Second General Meeting. New director of libraries for the Jackson Municipal Library, Ogilvie was born in Savannah, Ga., and was educated at St. Charles Junior College, Catonsville, Md.; St. Mary's University, Baltimore, Md.; Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C.; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C.; North Carolina University; Loyola University, New Orleans, La.; Winthrop College, Rock Hill, S. C., and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Tifton, Ga.

Eugene J. Cazenave, Jr., is well remembered by administrative librarians who heard him as a workshop speaker. Cazenave is college employment coordinator for Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company. A native of New Orleans, he has lived in Jackson for many years. He received a degree in mechanical and electrical engineering from Tulane University, New Orleans. He is a member of the Jackson Lions Club, a scoutmaster, a most ardent reader and inspiring lecturer.

Robert Webb, a panelist for the Friday morning session, is associate editor of the State Times, Jackson. A graduate of Columbia High School, he received his B. J. degree from the University of Missouri and did graduate work at Tulane and Yale. He is past president of the Jackson chapter, Sigma Delta Chi, professional journalistic society; a member of National Conference of Editorial Writers and the American Political Science Associations.



Hudson Strode, distinguished author, lecturer, traveler, is the guest speaker for the annual "Book Dinner" on Friday evening. A professor at the University of Alabama since 1924, Strode is the author of books on Mexico, Finland and Sweden as well as his newest on Jefferson Davis. Strode's books of travel and interpretation of foreign lands have won for him the praise of noted literary figures and critics. He travels extensively on lecture tours.



Dr. Ralph S. Acker, Chief, Instructional Methods Branch, U. S. Army Engineering School, is to address the joint meeting of the school and public librarians on Saturday morning. Dr. Acker received his doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania and is a specialist in educational administration and communication (reading and speech.)



Sarah Rebecca Reed, executive secretary of the Library Education Division and secretary of the Committee on Accreditation for the American Library Association, will speak on "Challenges in Academic Education" at the college section breakfast. She is a graduate of Cornell College and did graduate study at the University of Chicago.



Mrs. Weldon Lynch, who will speak on "The Commitment of the Trustee" at the Trustees Section Luncheon on Friday is president of the American Library Trustee Association, 1961-63. Born in Flora, Indiana, Mrs. Lynch makes her home in Oakdale, La. She was educated at Maryville College, Tenn., and is active in garden and music club work.

Claire Hilderbrand Wins Scholarship



Claire Hilderbrand

Claire Hilderbrand of Bentonla has been awarded the Mississippi Library Association's scholarship for next year, according to MLA president, Alan Skelton.

Claire is a senior at Mississippi Southern College, will complete her work for a degree with a major in Library Science during the coming year. Following her graduation she plans to work in a Mississippi library.

During her college years, she has served as a student assistant in the library at Mississippi Southern College, and this past summer she worked at the Mississippi Library Commission. On the campus she has been active in B. S. U. work and as a delegate to the Student Conference on Paramount Events.

Maria Person, Gulfport-Harrison County librarian, is chairman of the scholarship committee. Other committee members are: Mrs. Lucy Somerville Howorth, Cleveland trustee; Halie Eggleston, circulation librarian, University of Mississippi; and Clara Chamberlain, Natchez High School librarian.

Mrs. Novell Hudson Is 700th MLA Member

Mrs. E. Norvell Hudson of Olive Branch is the 700th member of the Mississippi Library Association.

"This represents the accomplishment of a double goal," said Alan Skelton, president of the Mississippi Library Association. "With her renewal for the current year, Mrs. Hudson represents both a new high in membership total and the active interest in library development now being shown by a growing number of Mississippi people.

Mrs. Hudson has no official connection with a library, but is a long-time active member of the Association and a layman who has contributed to the development of state libraries. She became closely associated with the Mississippi library program as a pioneer leader of a library-sponsored adult discussion group, and she has continued her interest and activity in this field and for libraries in general with committee assignments in the Mississippi Library Association and on the Mississippi Adult Education Coordinating Committee. Below is Mrs. Hudson.



PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS CHANGES

At a recent meeting of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, the following recommendations were made and are submitted for publication as stated in Article VIII of the Constitution and Article XIII of the Bylaws. (See Mississippi Library News, V. 24, No. 1, March, 1960, P. 9-12, for a copy of the Constitution and Bylaws.

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

Constitution

- (a) The words "and a parliamentarian" shall be deleted from Article IV.

Bylaws

- (a) The words "except the parliamentarian, who shall be appointed by the president," shall be deleted from Article I, Section 1A.
- (b) The words "the parliamentarian," shall be inserted in Article I, Section 2, between the words "appoint" and "all."
- (c) The words "the A. L. A. Councilor" shall be deleted from Article III, Section 1.
- (d) Article V, Section 4(e) shall be deleted and (f) and (g) be renumbered to read (e) and (f) respectively.

EXPLANATION

- (a) Avoids calling the parliamentarian an officer, since that position carries no voting power.
- (c) Removes the A. L. A. Councilor from the executive board.
- (d) Deletes conflicting statements concerning selection of a nominating committee.

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Heart-Warming Experiences Highlight In-Service Training Workshop

(The second in a series of in-service training workshops sponsored by the Public Library Section of the Mississippi Library Association was held on May 18 and 19 at the Mississippi Library Commission in Jackson. The following article touches on some of the highlights of this successful workshop.)



"The bookmobile won't start and there's a schedule to make — the dust — the heat — no place for a rest stop — getting people off so we can make the next scheduled stop — telling the reader there's not time in a 20-minute stop for him to read blurbs on every book — 10 people wanting the 'best seller' right now — those overdue books! Well, how do you face it before it hits you square in the eye?"

Forty-four librarians and other bookmobile personnel faced up to these and scores of other problems peculiar to bookmobile service at the recent Bookmobile workshop during a two-hour discussion on "What to Do When . . ." led by Mrs. C. C. Clark, Mississippi

Library Commission, and a panel composed of Mrs. Paul Davis, Copiah-Jefferson Regional Library; Mary Stewart Jones, Amite-Wilkinson Libraries; Mrs. Jean Sonnier, Gulfport Carnegie-Harrison County Library; Linton Rhodes, Northeast Regional Library; Mrs. Pauline Vaughn, Lincoln-Lawrence Regional Library, and Jane Anderson of the Mississippi Library Commission staff.

This audience-type discussion, which didn't drag for a minute, indicated that if there were problems that Mississippi bookmobile personnel had not run into (and solved most of the time successfully) they were ready and able to take them on.

Twenty-six "Do You Agree or Disagree" statements was the basis for a discussion so lively that the time was extended and continued in small groups. Mrs. Currier, Director of the Library Commission, led this discussion. Agree or Disagree No. 14, "The glamor of the bookmobile is its own undoing." Four agreed, 39 disagreed and two said, "What glamor?" The con-



Taking part in a discussion group during the bookmobile librarians conference were: Mrs. Ernest Weatherly, Pontotoc; Mrs. Katimae Barnett, Capital Area Regional; Mrs. T. B. Collins, Jr., Capital Area Regional; Mrs. Charles H. Wells, Greenwood-Leflore Public; (backs to camera): Bertie Patton, Lee-Itawamba Regional, and Mrs. Douglas Bateman, Lowndes Co. - Columbus Public Library.

clusion to be drawn — bookmobile librarianship is not stereotyped. There was a healthy display of differences out of which is believed to come some learning, some changes in attitude and some consequent changes in performance.

The real-down-to-earth practical parts of the program dealt with reports, record keeping, mechanical operation of the bookmobile and a discussion on "To run or not to run," pointing up circumstances and situations under which the bookmobile is not the best way to give library service. Participants in these programs were Mrs. Annie Bess Hinton, Mrs. Esther Vaughn, Evelyn Tackett, David Gillespie, all of the Commission staff; Bobby Outlaw, of the Bolivar County Library; Mrs. Marie Kennedy, Capital Area Regional Library; Mrs. Maxine McNeill, Mid-Mississippi Regional Library, and Don Newton of the Newton Advertising Agency.

The two high points of inspiration during the two-day workshop were first, a dialogue, "The Reader and His Book," between Helen Beckham, director of the Commission's field office in the Sharkey-Washington County area and Mrs. Marguerite Crampton of the Meridian-Neshoba Library Service, and the second was the luncheon speech, "The Bookmobile and I," made by Jean Culbertson (Mrs. V. L.), a patron of the Capital Area Regional Library bookmobile service (see text of Mrs. Culbertson's speech elsewhere in this issue).

Miss Beckham and Mrs. Crampton (known hereafter as Helen and Marguerite) in informal talk seated atop a table, lifted their listeners above the practical matter-of-fact aspects of bookmobile operation when they said, "The bookmobile librarian is like a woman in love; in love with her territory, her magic carpet — the bookmobile — her work, most of all her people, the readers who flock to her door in search of that extra something in life."

They talked about the bookmobile

stop, handling crowds, arranging books on the shelves; they talked about the librarian herself and what kind of person she should be, her need to know books and resources for knowing them; they talked about the bookmobile team — the librarian and that important person, the driver — but best of all they talked about their prior responsibility, getting the right book to the right person, and how this involves knowing and understanding their readers and their books. Let's listen in for a little while.

Helen: "There is the dirty, barefooted woman on bookmobile route No. 2 who gets only non-fiction, for she says, 'I have no time to read for pleasure'."

Marguerite: "There is Mrs. S—— who loads up with books for all the family and said, 'My husband (a farmer) wept when he read *Exodus*!' "

Helen: "... and the little boy who missed the bookmobile at his stop and his mother drove him furiously to catch it at the next stop."

Marguerite: "Oh, you must know about the spinster who rarely gets away from home because of her aged mother, who wants spicy books (the mother, that is) but not about married people.

Helen: "There is the little cerebral palsy boy who has come to recognize the bookmobile by its color and the little boy who waited an hour for us to catch up so we could find his book."

Marguerite: "And there are Mr. and Mrs. C——, who want their Northern-born daughter-in-law to learn about Mississippi."

Helen and Marguerite: (Words falling over each other): "Yes, there is the mother who just lost her last child with pneumonia and the little boy whose father has just died and who says, 'Daddy always loved the books on rocks and minerals . . .'" "How else," say both, "could we help our readers if we did not share their joys and sorrows and did not know their



Among the many who attended the bookmobile librarians conference were, left to right: Jane Moore, Ruble Lindsey, Mrs. Douglas Bateman, from Lowndes County - Columbus Library; and James L. Keller and Mrs. Leslie Webber from Tombigbee Regional Library, West Point. Although space does not allow naming all who attended, see Page 103 for more contented "conferecers."

circumstances and something of their thinking?"

Marguerite: "To Mr. S—— who wept over *Exodus* and asked for other books about Jews, we sent *This Is My God* by Herman Woult, and *The Inspector*, a poignant book about a Dutch police officer who sacrificed his career to escort a dying Jewish girl to Israeli, also *Seidman and Son*, a humorous and heart-warming book about the relationship between a Jewish father and his son."

"To Mrs. K——, who believes in flying saucers, was offered books by Arthur Clark, a scientist who writes science fiction as well as many books and articles on space exploration. It delighted her to learn that Mr. Clark thinks that even space may not be large enough for so quarrelsome a creature as man."

Marguerite (continuing): "To Mrs. B——, who lost her last child and is not able to have another, was given *The Conquest of Fear* by Basil King, a simply written, concise and sincere testament of how faith and courage can supplant fear and despair. Another had read *The Nunnery*, a novel about the dissolution of the monasteries during the reign of Henry VIII, and was disappointed that we did not have more books by the same author. Realizing it was the subject and not the author that interested her, I remembered *The Man on a Donkey*, a wonderful and haunting novel of the same period."

"We realize," said Margaret, "that the reason people ask for the Greys, the Hills, the Lorings and books about nurses and doctors is largely because that's all they know to ask for — and it's a show of ignorance not to ask for books by their titles — here is where we, the librarians, must be wise counselors and guides, tactful with helpful enthusiasm and not chilled negativism. We do, of course, need to build up the reader's taste but not by disparaging it, deplorable as it may be. We must be just as willing to help the stooped shouldered farmer find a Zane Grey as to provide the Brothers Karamzov for the stalwart college student, and at the same time use all our trick to introduce him to something better."

It was then 5:00 p. m., and it had been a long day program-wise but the listeners were refreshed and glowing and a little misty-eyed because Helen and Marguerite had made them see their jobs in a new dimension. The dusty roads — the heat — the exasperating customers, all became minor in comparison to the joys, the feeling of achievement, the challenge and the warmth of human relationships that the bookmobile offered.

"At first," said city-bred Marguerite, "Neshoba County seemed a strange land. But after five years I increasingly love its far away blue hills, its narrow winding roads that lead back to nowhere, the famous and fantastic

Fairgrounds, and the tiny country stores stuck about the landscape like stamps on a picture post card. A favorite story is about Mr. R——, a former A. & P. store manager who went on a hunting trip in Neshoba County and thought he was in about as remote a back-woods place as could be found, but no, there was our sign which says, "BOOKMOBILE STOPS HERE."

Helen: "What a contrast to my urban stop (within the city limits of Grenville) where on one stop we had to call the police department to help avoid a serious traffic hazard."

Marguerite: "Variety — that's what keeps us alert, and that deep down inside feeling of warmth that comes from the friendship of the readers."

Helen summed it all up when she related: "Yes, the friendliness — I remember the little boy who rushed in to the bookmobile breathlessly with a piece of paper and said, 'Read this, lady.' I read:

Suppose there were no books!
No books to read in cozy nooks!
No books to fill the hungry mind,
And teach the art of being kind.
No books to while an hour away,

To link today with yesterday;
No books to charm us for awhile,
To bring a tear or lure a smile.
But there are books, praise God above!

If we have books and we have love,
We can dispense with other things;
'Tis books, not crowns, that make men kings!"

He had discovered Ina Roberts and wanted desperately to share her with his good friend, the bookmobile lady.

The workshop was over when Mrs. Emily Hughes, Jackson County - Pascagoula City Library, told the luncheon group what it had meant to her, a newcomer. "I was confused for a while and still am a little. But I know now I shall always want to be a bookmobile librarian."

There will be another, the third, work shop on September 14 and 15. It will deal with all the intricate matters of fiscal policies, record keeping, reporting, all that mysterious machinery that keeps the library wheels going around smoothly. Sounds dull? No precedent has been set; in-service training workshops get better and better.



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Annie Bess Hinton Heads National Library Week

Mrs. Annie Bess Hinton, coordinator of public services for the Mississippi Library Commission, is state executive director for National Library Week for 1962.

This, the fifth National Library Week, will be celebrated April 8-14. Mrs. Hinton is now appointing her committees which will spearhead the celebration in the state.

National Library Week enjoyed a peak success throughout Mississippi last year with a large number of cities taking part. The national NLW annual report, issued by the National Book Committee, Inc., attributes Mississippi's enthusiasm to its excellent committees. In part, it states: "The predominant contributing cause for the best NLW yet was the calibre of the State Citizens Committee. Due to the activity of the State Committee — speeches, articles, editorials, etc. — certainly there are more people knowing more about libraries."

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Bookmobiles Put Reading On Personal Basis

By Jean Culbertson

There was a time when educators and professional intellectuals predicted that television would make us a nation of flat-bottomed, goggle-eyed robots — that we'd be spoon-fed blather from the idiot box until we never had an original thought — that the big eye would take care of all craving for information and entertainment.

But you librarians know that more writers are producing more books, and more publishers are printing more books and more libraries are being built — and more people are reading. They MUST be reading!

Parents and educators may worry — and I suppose it is justified — about the impact of the idiot box and its big brother, talking flickers. They'll wonder whether censorship is strict enough, whether some films or some scenes should be banned, whether some subjects should be avoided entirely.

Once in a while you even find somebody who is willing to ban or even burn a book. But not often. Why? Gee, I don't know. Books, after all, are more permanent and irrevocable. I've never tried to find out the reason. But I've got a theory about books. And that is what this is all leading up to.

On this business of censorship, we all know there are things in books that no TV or movie producer would dare to show in a million years. In books that are on your library shelves, yes, indeed!

Why doesn't the PTA scream about that? They get rid of pornographic comics and slop like that, and I'm glad they do. They ban movies, even though you've got a better chance of controlling the movies your children see than the books they might read, if they haunt the libraries like an addicted reader always does.

Well, I don't know the answer — I just have a theory. A child who reads

— who reads books — that child will develop enough judgment and discrimination and wisdom that a good author's honest presentation of life as it really is will not shock nor distort nor corrupt him. He can sift these things out for himself if he's a true reader.

So far as I know the only times anybody ever got serious about banning or burning books, it was truth they feared, not corruption.

I may be wrong. Maybe the PTA just thinks that books aren't that important, as they affect young minds. I certainly have no wish to stir the girls up, but if that is their theory — well, let's let sleeping dogs lie. Remember the librarian in "Child Buyer" who helped Barry find all the books on anatomy to satisfy his burgeoning curiosity. And when the investigating senator learned about it, he demanded to know what on earth she was thinking of, giving "filth" to a child like that. So let's not stir anything up.

Personally, I can say that the printed word — books — has more impact than any other medium of communication. For me, this is true. I do not believe that is the case with everyone.

But I do believe this: it is the case, it very definitely is true of everyone who reads books! Who is addicted to books, who finds them utterly necessary. Books are like narcotics, they're habit forming. They become vitally important!

So if there are those who are not addicted to books and who find more impact in the idiot box or the big eye, then they simply haven't been hooked yet.

You all are peddlers of this potent and habit forming stimulant, or opiate, depending on what book you are reading. You are the gals (and some men,

too, I see) who can get your own personal little segment of the population hooked, real good, so we'll need books like food and air the rest of our lives.

Those of you who work on bookmobiles, you're taking this potent narcotic right out to the kids and to the people who might never have been in contact with it before. Well, I don't need to tell you about that. You've all been down that road, quite literally.

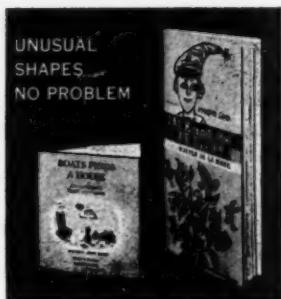
But I'd like to tell you a little bit about how I, just as one of your readers, feel about the bookmobile. This is kind of like reviewing books. I can't even pretend to know what I'm talking about. I'm no expert. But on the assumption that you come to serve the average reader like me, just as the author writes for the average reader like me, I can presume to say what I think.

We've established the importance of getting books to people. You bring them to us, but there is more to it than that, if the youngsters are going to get hooked.

First, we've got to find something to satisfy the craving. You can influence our habits or you can simply help us find what we THINK we want. Either way, you're a big help. Priscilla Everett (Bookmobile Librarian, Capital Area Regional Library) does both. The two best books I've read in the last couple of months, she kind of palmed off on me, although I didn't exactly want them, but Priscilla is so nice, you know, that — what it boils down to is that she knows more about what I like than I do!

That's too much to expect from any librarian, and I wouldn't want you to think you need to cultivate that kind of acquaintance with your clients or patrons, or whatever you call people who read. Addicts.

But you can guide our taste, and especially with children. Kids have open, eager little minds that are ready to absorb things. My son's second



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grade teacher says that's what she likes about teaching eight-year-olds — their minds are so new and fresh and untouched.

Give them a good book instead of some comic strip or TV program, and you'll find children that are so deep in their reading you can't jar them with a popsicle. At least that's the way mine are. And mine are mighty average youngsters.

Your attitude toward books is extremely contagious, did you know that? I've lived places where the librarians acted like they were a little reluctant to share their books with people, they were sour and stingy with them. The ladies in my bookmobile love books and they communicate that. They have enthusiasm — their enthusiasm for books is lively and infectious.

Our bookmobile provides us with personal reading only. I don't know whether that is true of most readers or not. For study purposes, the child uses the school library. If I need to research an article, I must have a periodical index, subject index, reference works and so forth. So I am assuming that the bookmobile provides most of us with our individual diversion.

Without you, most of us would never get to the big, impersonal library — let alone find something we want to read among all those hundreds and hundreds of shelves. If you're looking for a particular book, they never have it. Priscilla doesn't always have it, but she does always bring it next Friday. And if I forget I wanted it, she remembers. Marvelous memory.

Bookmobiles, what I'm trying to say, bring this whole reading business down to a personal level, and that's so nice. What's more personal than books or reading, after all?

Do I have any gripes? Well, maybe one. I have a daughter in the fourth grade and, for heaven's sakes, where are all your mysteries? They are on a real mystery kick right now — they get them from the school library and

her friends all give them for birthday gifts. This Nancy something-or-other series, you know? I can't find enough, or maybe they're just gone by the time I get there.

And biographies, especially of famous women, about when they were little girls. I strongly suspect there simply haven't been enough of those written to satisfy my chick right now.

I'll say this for you. I believe this is the only outfit connected with city, county, state or federal government which honestly operates in the most effective and efficient manner possible with the genuine intent and only goal of serving the people well. The only one. You do it.

Don't ever underestimate your importance. Those of you who deal with books daily probably know better than I the overwhelming impact books can have on a person's life. What if that person never read a book? What a tragedy! Well, Emily Dickinson said it so beautifully, like this:

"He ate and drank the precious words,

His spirit grew robust;
He knew no more that he was poor,
Nor that his frame was dust.
He danced along the dingy days,
And this bequest of wings
Was but a book. What liberty
A loosened spirit brings!"

To you who bring this "bequest of wings" — from all of us "loosened spirits" — we thank you.

Mrs. Culbertson's entertaining and informative talk was presented at a luncheon during the In-Service Training Workshop. Mrs. Culbertson is a writer, an entertaining speaker, and, as shown by her talk, an ardent reader.

Mrs. Rebecca M. Rice will join the staff of Mississippi College Library as circulation-reference librarian on September 1. An M. S. C. W. graduate, Mrs. Rice is currently working on her Master's degree in library science at the University of Mississippi.

It's News To Me—

Mrs. J. T. Reid, who has been in charge of technical processes for three years at the Gulfport-Harrison County Library, resigned June 1. Mrs. Ellis Caraway, circulation librarian, succeeded her.

Mrs. Ibert Fletcher, Long Beach High School librarian, worked in the Gulfport library during the summer supervising revision of vertical files and indexing valuable material.

Carnegie Public Library, Clarksdale, has two new staff members: Mrs. Newton (Edwina) Dodson and Mrs. Roy (Chatwin) McInnis. Edwina is a graduate of the University of Texas and Chatwin is a graduate of Ward-Belmont in Nashville.

Mrs. Marie J. Kennedy, acting director of Capital Area Regional Library, is leaving this month for a year's graduate study at L. S. U. library school. She hopes to receive her Master's Degree in June. She is replaced by Mrs. Martha Owens Booth, formerly of Tupelo.

Mrs. Priscilla Everett, Capital Area Regional Library's acquisitions librarian, has just returned from a three-weeks' trip to California to visit her family.

Mrs. Katimae Barnett, CARL branches supervisor, flew on August 6 to Seattle for a two-weeks' visit with her husband whose orchestra is playing in the state of Washington.

Among the Mississippians seen at the ALA Convention in Cleveland: Anna Roberts, Mrs. Mary Jo Magee, Forrest Palmer, Sybil Hanna, Lucille Miller, J. B. Howell, Mrs. Ada Page Corbin, Jane Anderson, Mrs. Russell Lyons.

Changes in staff personnel at Mississippi Southern College include: Mrs. Mary Cogle replaces Mrs. Mary Janice

Hasson who resigned as head of circulation; Mrs. Rosalie Brand, new circulation assistant; Lillian Smith will be librarian at Thomas Jefferson High School, Port Arthur, Texas.

Jonett Sanford, assistant circulation librarian at Delta State College, became Mrs. John White Valentine in a Christian Church wedding at Lambert on August 13th. Mr. Valentine, a Cleveland attorney and civic leader, not only married a librarian, but is also secretary of the city library commission and a member of MLA.

Delta State College librarians carry the library message wherever they go: Miss Sanford to Oakland, Miss Dakin to Mississippi College, Mrs. Tucker to Lake Junaluska, Miss Harkins to Flagstaff, Arizona.

The library at Delta State College has received a copy of Botkin's Civil War Treasury from Virginia C. Robinson and Beulah Culbertson in appreciation of their visit to Cleveland earlier this year. James Bryan gave a colorful piece of pottery from his May showing in the library.

Sybil Ann Hanna, children's librarian, Jackson Municipal Library, attended "The Child in the Adult World" pre-conference workshop for librarians in Cleveland, Ohio, July 5-8, at the Newberry-Caldecott Dinner.

Elizabeth H. Kelly, director of the public library of El Paso, Texas, was an appreciated visitor at the Greenwood-Leflore Public Library when she was in the state visiting relatives in Greenwood, Inverness and Ruleville.

Dorothy Roe, syndicated newspaper columnist, wrote an editorial praising the Vacation Reading Clubs and the year-long work of the Greenwood-Leflore Library with children.

PHILLIP S. OGILVIE HEADS JACKSON LIBRARIES; PEARL SNEED IS LIBRARIAN EMERITUS

Phillip S. Ogilvie, of Roanoke, Va., (pictured on Page 92 of this issue) is the new director of public libraries of Jackson.

Ogilvie became director on July 1, succeeding Miss Pearl Sneed, who will become librarian emeritus after 17 years of administering the Jackson Municipal Library.

A native of Savannah, Ga., Ogilvie was previously director of the Roanoke Public Libraries. He is married to the former Miss Joan M. Forshag, of Aberdeen, Miss., and New Orleans, and has five children. His age is 42.

He attended the public schools of Savannah, St. Charles College, Catonsville, Md., and St. Mary's University, Baltimore, Md. In 1947 he earned a graduate degree in library science at the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C., and has done post-graduate studies at the University of North Carolina, North Carolina State College, Loyola University of the South, Winthrop College, and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College.

As a public librarian, Ogilvie has worked in several states, all in the South. He was assistant librarian at the Rock Hill, S. C., Public Library;

director of the Albemarle Regional Library, serving three counties from Winston, N. C., and director of the Coastal Plain Regional Library, serving five counties from Tifton, Ga., before going to Roanoke in 1958.

Ogilvie organized the Coastal Plain Regional Library in 1956 and saw circulation of library books to this formerly unserved area of Rural South Georgia top 400,000 in less than two years. His work there was the subject of a feature article in the ALA Bulletin (May, '59), which was reprinted in the Congressional Record (June 1, 1959), at the request of Senator Lister Hill of Alabama.

Librarian Ogilvie is a member of the American Library Association, the Southeastern Library Association, and the Virginia Library Association. He is currently serving a second term as chairman of the Audio-Visual Committee of the Southeastern Library Association and is chairman of the Librarian Recruitment Committee of the Virginia Library Association. He is also director of the Roanoke Historical Association and the Roanoke Men's Garden Club.

A frequent contributor to the literature of librarianship, he has had articles published in Junior Libraries, ALA Bulletin, and the Virginia Librarian. A recent article in the latter has been translated into Arabic and reprinted in Library World, Cairo, Egypt.

"I look forward with pleasure to serving the people of Progressive Jackson as library administrator," Ogilvie says, "and to the great challenge of continuing the enviable record of accomplishment set by my able and esteemed predecessor, Miss Pearl Sneed."

Ogilvie was selected from among several librarians interviewed by the Jackson Municipal Library Board and other city officials earlier this year.



Miss Pearl Sneed

Two Favorite Librarians Retire



Mrs. Chancellor



Mrs. Wilson

Two of Mississippi's best known and most loved librarians — Mrs. Annie Wilson of Oxford and Mrs. Sallie Chancellor of Meridian — retired during the summer after a combined total of almost a half-century of service.

Mrs. Annie Wilson, librarian for the Lafayette County Library since 1942, retired July 1. She is succeeded by Mrs. P. A. Wilson, who was the former assistant librarian for the Oxford Branch of the First Regional Library.

Mrs. Wilson is well known throughout Lafayette County. Her genuine interest in people led her to make friends and encourage reading throughout the county. During the years she headed the Lafayette County Library, circulation of books in Oxford and Lafayette County was generally higher than in the other three counties served by the regional library. She has been most active in the Oxford Business and Professional Women's Club which contributes annually toward library development. Her retirement was announced by Mrs. Hazel Shelton, chairman of the Lafayette County Library Board and a representative from Lafayette County on the First Regional Library Board.

Mrs. Chancellor has been employed in the Meridian Public Library for over 25 years. Her face is familiar to all

library patrons for she has served at the circulation desk for many years. In the last 12 years alone, she has issued more than 655,000 books.

Librarian Jeanne Broach said Mrs. Chancellor has had particular success in selecting books for persons who did not know exactly what they wanted. Because she is so keenly interested in people and a good judge of character, Mrs. Chancellor knows precisely which books will interest certain persons.

Mrs. Chancellor's library work began in the early 1930's in the New Deal days when she worked with the WPA. She distributed books to different points in the county for rural reading. Her extensive knowledge of the county and its people proved beneficial years later when she helped plan routes for the library's bookmobile. When Mrs. Chancellor began her library career, there were some 3,000 registered patrons who checked out about 100 books a day. Now there are more than 16,000 patrons who check out books at the rate of more than 500 per day.

Looking forward to her retirement, Mrs. Chancellor plans to compile recipes which she has collected through the years into a book. She also intends to go to the library and check out all the best sellers. "Maybe now I'll have time to read them," she said.

Summer Reading Program Enjoys Wide Success Throughout State

Summer reading programs were the "order of the day" throughout Mississippi.

In Noxubee County Libraries, approximately 60 juniors enrolled and read a total of 586 books during the six weeks period. "Book bait for leisure reading" was the theme of this year's program and five fiction and five non-fiction titled "book bait" were required to receive a certificate. 31 members received certificates at the closing party held in the Brooksville park.

Story hour in Macon, Brooksville and Shuqualak was held again this year with volunteer story-tellers and hostesses. In Macon the Junior Auxiliary was in charge of the program cooperating with the library. In Brooksville and Shuqualak, members of the library board and friends assisted.

Summer story hours were held weekly at Evans Memorial Library, Aberdeen. Francis, the children's favorite library assistant (a large stuffed rabbit) changed his name to Peter so he could closely associate with the young listeners who were divided into "Flopsies" and "Mopsies".

The poster for the older children's Vacation Reading Plan at the Evans Memorial Library bore the words, "Join the Rocking Chair Reading Race Through Monroe County". Fact posters on the county and a county map were used. Games and contests brought out bits of local history and supplemented the book reading. Chief attraction and well-used was the rocking chair supplied by a local firm which appropriately bears the name, "Story Book Furniture Company".

Northeast Regional Library reports the busiest summer in its history; each library had a story hour, a reading program, painting class and crafts class. The registration of new library pa-

trons, use of the libraries and circulation reached an all-time high. In the Corinth library a new feature of the summer program was the help given to the slow readers in the elementary grades. Mrs. Julian Prince, superintendent of Corinth schools, employed a teacher to work two nights and on Saturday afternoons during the summer months in the library, helping children whose promotion depended on reading improvement. This brought in a number of children who had not previously used the library.

Other libraries in the state reporting summer reading activities include. Taylorsville, Mendenhall, Ripley, Lincoln and Lawrence Counties; Redmond Memorial Library, Brookhaven; Magee, Meridian, Lee County, Jefferson County, Greenville, Crystal Springs, Hazlehurst.

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D I S T R I B U T O R

"You Have To Know, If You Want To Grow" Emphasized At Adult Education Seminar

By Mrs. Elizabeth Holcomb

Lee County Library

"I was amazed at the titles of the books that the people selected," exclaimed Mrs. Pat Daugherty, Chairman of the Rural Community Development Council on the way home from the Mooreville Reading Seminar. "Books on government, Communism, world affairs, outstanding people — such meaty reading!"

"Wouldn't the Mooreville people be astounded to learn that the Seminar was an Adult Education Project", I replied. "I can hear them right now saying, 'Why, I finished my schooling long ago!'"

The Reading Seminar was conducted by the Lee County Library in the unincorporated village of 176 families as a special project in cooperation with the Rural Development Council. A reading survey taken just before the Seminar began revealed that approximately a third of the 51 adults present had not read a book during the previous year.

A stimulating and entertaining skit entitled, "You Have to Know, If You Want to Grow," was used to emphasize purposes and benefits of reading. The cast of characters included librarians, reader's advisor, and seven wide-awake library patrons from Tupelo and other Lee County communities. These patrons, who had worked as diligently on their parts as if they were to appear in a play on Broadway, included a retired TVA businessman, the city attorney, a young man just graduated from high school, a grandmother, a young housewife, a business woman, and a woman active in many civic, church, and social affairs.

The audience was shown, in the close of the skit, how by using 15 minutes each day a person may read two books a month, 24 books a year, 1,000 books in a lifetime. Attractive posters were exhibited, showing at

least two ways of finding 15 minutes a day.

"How many of you can find 15 minutes each day for the next two months?" When this challenge was presented, the show of hands was one hundred per cent.

Then came the "proof of the pudding". Mimeographed lists of "Books for a Better-Read, Better-Informed Mooreville" were distributed, a community librarian was appointed and two portable units of shelving filled with books included in the list and discussed in the skit were brought to the front. The scene that followed was somewhat akin to the one in "The Pied Piper," except this time it was adults following a librarian.

Each Monday evening Mrs. Merlene Whitesides returns to the school, which serves as a community center, to keep the shelves open for two hours. After one month she reports: "I just can't believe it! Already more than 100 books have been read — and this is a busy season, with gardens, and crops, and all the summer duties. The people are just wondering, would it be possible to change these books for others to read during the winter?"

CARNEGIE BRANCH LIBRARY ENJOYS FACE LIFTING

The Myrtle Hall Negro Branch of Carnegie Public Library, Clarksdale, underwent a complete face lifting job. The entire interior of the library was repainted a soft shade of green. The wooden floors were refinished and new equipment has been purchased, including steel book stacks.

In addition to interior repairs, the exterior has had two coats of paint and all gutters have been replaced with new ones. New sidewalks have been laid and the library grounds are now in process of being landscaped.

FIVE NEW LIBRARIES COMPLETED

Residents of five Mississippi towns — Cleveland, Starkville, Maben, Arcola and Bude — are experiencing the joy of checking books from their sparkling new libraries which were completed in July.

In Cleveland the new Dorothy Robinson Carpenter Family Memorial Library is the nerve center of the entire Bolivar County Library system which includes branches at Gunnison, Shelby, Rosedale, Merigold, Shaw and Cleveland, and is the headquarters for the Bolivar County Bookmobile.

The Dorothy Robinson Carpenter Family Memorial Library was built by Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy T. Robinson, Saralie Robinson Walker and Jimmy T. Robinson, Jr., and the City of Cleveland at a cost of \$60,000. It was erected in loving memory of Mrs. Carpenter, her husband, Bernard R. Carpenter and their children, Rush, Rosalie and Bert, who perished in a tragic fire in November, 1960.

The new library is of modern design with expanses of glass and solar screen trim. The new building provides ample reading and research space.

In Starkville an open house was held in late July to display the renovated library. The building was repainted, inside and out, and completely rearranged to make better use of the available space. New shelf space was provided to make room for some 400 additional books. The Starkville library also has new furniture with reading areas for both children and adults. Old books in the Starkville library were weeded out and approximately 1,000 new volumes added to the shelves from the Mississippi Library Commission.

Maben's newest institution, the Maben Public Library, was opened and officially dedicated on July 22. Located in the front end of the Maben

Fire Department, the dedication was conducted outside in front of the building with Mayor E. H. Foster cutting the ribbon and officially declaring the library open for public use.

The Maben Public Library completes the link of public libraries in Oktibbeha County, with units already located in Starkville and Sturgis.

Mrs. Lura Currier, director of the Mississippi Library Commission, who gave the dedication address, said although the library contained 1200 volumes it had access to literally thousands of books. Not only will books be exchanged regularly among the three Oktibbeha County Libraries, but they will also be exchanged on a state level with other libraries through the Library Commission.

Dedication ceremonies were held at Arcola for the new library which is a joint undertaking of the Washington County Board of Supervisors and the Arcola Town Council. Books and furniture are on long-term loan from the Mississippi Library Commission.

The Arcola library is air-conditioned, has Danish modern furniture, shelving for 500 books, low tables and chairs for children. The library will be open nine hours each week, two mornings and two afternoons. Story hours for children are planned for Saturday morning as well as discussion groups for adults.

The Bude Public Library is the result of efforts by interested residents. Franklin Woman's Club initiated the project and its success is largely due to the efforts of the club members and the cooperation of city and county officials. The library is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays with volunteer librarians working.

Books acquaint us with the past and point the pathway to the future. — Channing.

Trustees' Section

Mrs. White Is New Library Commissioner

Mrs. Gordon White, Sr., of Obadiah, chairman of the trustees section of the Mississippi Library Association, has been appointed to the Board of Commissioners of the Mississippi Library Commission.

Mrs. White received her appointment from Governor Ross Barnett to serve a five-year term beginning July, 1961. She replaces Miss Elisabeth Wise of Hazlehurst whose term expired.

A nationally recognized 4-H Club leader, Mrs. White is also active in home demonstration club work. She was named Woman of the Year in 1959 by the Meridian B&PW Club; is a member of the state Mental Health Association, and of the Lauderdale Cancer Society. She is a trustee of the Meridian Public Library. State Chairman of the Farm Bureau Women's committee, she is also a member of the American Farm Bureau program planning committee, Southern Region. She is active in the Presbyterian Church.

Recently Mrs. White returned to school after a 32 years absence. She



Mrs. Gordon White

is attending Meridian Junior College. Mrs. White has a son, three daughters and seven grandchildren.

TRUSTEES HOLD ANNUAL, QUARTERLY MEETINGS

The Capital Area Regional Library Board of Trustees held its regular quarterly meeting at Headquarters in Raymond in August. Present were Mrs. S. C. Meisburg, Chairman, Hinds County; Mr. M. F. Herring, Hinds County; Mr. W. C. Scarborough and Mr. W. L. Caughman, Simpson County; Mr. O. B. Triplett, Jr., Scott County; and Mrs. Marie J. Kennedy, Acting Director of the Library. Prior to the meeting Mrs. Meisburg and Mr. Herring entertained the Board members and Mrs. Kennedy at dinner in Raymond. Mrs. Kennedy's report to the Board showed a marked increase in the number of books circulated and many indications that both children and adults are requesting better books.

As a first step in plans for increasing the library service for Quitman, Mayor Robert E. Covington, Jr., has appointed five trustees to serve on the Municipal Library Commission. They are: Charles L. Cole, H. C. Dellinger, R. H. Donald, Jr., Mrs. J. B. Evans, Jr., and Mrs. Frank A. McLendon.

☆☆☆

Members of the Holmes County Library Board attending their annual luncheon in Durant included Mrs. Majes Bowes, Chairman, West; Mrs. Frank Eakin, Treasurer, Thornton; Mrs. T. C. Pavatt, Pickens; Mrs. Loise King, Lexington; George McIntyre, Holmes County Librarian, and two guests from the Commission, Miss Mary Love and Mrs. Annie Bess Hinton.

Mrs. Foster Of Lee Conty Library Dies

Mrs. M. M. Foster, Chairman of the Board of Trustees and benefactor of the Lee County Library for 22 years, died on July 2 after an illness of several years.

Although the name Helen Foster had well become synonymous with Lee County Library through her monumental work in the establishment and expansion of the library and by her securing one of the first county-wide bookmobiles in Mississippi, she was known also for her contributions to the civic, cultural, spiritual, and educational development of Tupelo and Lee County. Among the honors accorded Mrs. Foster the two of which she was most proud, perhaps, were: She was named Mississippi's outstanding Library Trustee by the Mississippi Library Association in 1949; and she received the whole-hearted nomination of the Tupelo Pilot Club in 1956 as "The Woman of the Year."



Although an invalid, Mrs. Foster's interest in libraries was so keen that she attended meetings of the Mississippi Library Association and other library meetings regularly until the last few years, when her health no longer permitted. Throughout the years her energy and enthusiasm were an inspiration to those about her.

PROMPTNESS

*"If it were done when it is done, then it
were well it were done quickly."*

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TRUSTEE PROFILE — George Thatcher

George Thatcher of Gulfport has been a member of the Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Gulfport-Harrison County Library since 1953. In 1955 he served as president of the board and since that time has been active in promoting a new library for the burgeoning Mississippi Coast Library.

Thatcher has been using the library since childhood. A few years ago during a reregistration following the merging of the libraries, one of the interesting relics discovered in the files was his original card, printed in large letters at the age of 5!

Mr. Thatcher is vice-president of the Dixie Press in Gulfport, and managing editor of the Dixie Guide.

Active in civic and social life, he is presently a member of the board of directors of Gulf Park College and a director of the Gulfport Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of the Great Southern Country Club, Gulfport Yacht Club and is president of the Century Club.

Thatcher, a major in the United States Army Reserve, is an infantry veteran of both World War II and the Korean War, where he won decorations.

He is the author of "Misrepresentation in Mississippi," a study of the state's legislative apportionment. A contributor to various periodicals, his article, "A Shared Ministry," appeared in *The Living Church* in 1961.

He is a member of St. Peter's-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church and is first vice-president of the Episcopal Laymen of Mississippi. Thatcher is married to the former Miss Mary Jenkins of Midland, Georgia.

They are the parents of three children. His family are all enthusiastic library users and supporters. When a kindergarten class visited the library, they spontaneously shouted (prompted perhaps because Walter Thatcher, age 5, was in the group), "We want a new library!"



George Thatcher

Many M. L. A. members will remember a delightful talk on the history of the Gulf Coast area given on Ship Island after a moonlight boat ride when the convention was held in Biloxi in October, 1950. He gave the invocation at the banquet at the 1960 convention.

Portrait Presented To Corinth Library

A memorial portrait of Jameson C. Jones has been presented to the Corinth Library by members of the Northeast Regional Library Board, the Alcorn Library Board and the library staff. Mr. Jones served as chairman of the Alcorn County Library Board, the Northeast Regional Library Board, Board of Building Trustees of Corinth Library and the Mississippi Citizens Library Movement. He labored untiringly from 1931 to 1961 in the development of library service on all levels. Mary Calvin Rodgers, granddaughter of Mr. Jones, unveiled the portrait.



Trustees of the Capital Area Regional Library include, left to right: M. F. Herring, Raymond; W. L. Caughman, Jackson; Mrs. S. C. Meisburg, Jackson, Chairman; O. B. Triplett, Forest, and W. C. Scarbrough, Mendenhall.

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Community Is Often Judged By Library

By Arthur Owens
City Manager
Roanoke, Va.

The public library serves all of the people, and the people's interests are varied and broad, and reach into all age groups from tiny tots who want Mother Goose stories to elderly, retired ladies and gentlemen who drop in to peruse newspapers and periodicals, or just to relax in the serene atmosphere.

The functions of a public library lend themselves with equal generosity to serious research or casual entertainment, and more than that, they lend themselves to the appreciation and preservation of our American way of life.

People outside our communities, our state, and our region are as conscious of the caliber of our public libraries as we are. We are all concerned with an intensified effort to expand industrially in Virginia, and we are all aware that it takes more than pleas and promises to bring big industry to us. It takes even more than available land, a favorable tax structure, accessibility to public transportation, and a potential in human and natural resources. It takes a real selling job to attract industry, and climate is a factor in the sale.

Yes, climate — not in terms of weather, although that does have some bearing — but a climate of living, an unhobbled community climate that includes such governmental and non-governmental services and institutions as, for example, churches of all major faiths, good schools, adequate provisions for public health and safety, recreation areas and facilities, and the various media for the dissemination of culture and information which include prominently our public libraries. Industry seeks its new homes in communities that offer these means to personal fulfillment, and it is not secret

that a community that is found wanting in this regard is left wanting.

And, may I state that it is not just those industries bringing in professional and highly educated people that show an interest in whether or not a community has a good public library. Far from it, for in our day, management is highly conscious of the needs of its employees both on the job and in the community. Personal contentment has great bearing on job performance. Means of self-improvement are important to personal contentment, and it is generally recognized that a good public library is an adaptable and flexible means to this end.

I believe a community is quite often judged by its attitude toward its pub-

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lic library program. This attitude is reflected in a community's willingness to provide adequate public library services from reasonably modern buildings by putting up the funds necessary to meet the rising economy and the expanding community's needs.

It is certainly a mistake to neglect our library programs. Indeed it is our responsibility as officials in the municipalities of Virginia to do all we can to advance and promote our public libraries, for when our communities are judged by their libraries, the judgment will be based not only on the current status but also upon the past records of advancement.

My appreciation of the value of public libraries and my understanding of their goals increases steadily and is attributable in some measure to the capable explanations and contagious enthusiasm of Roanoke's library director, Phil Ogilvie (Note: Mr. Ogilvie is now director of the Jackson, Miss., Municipal Library). He has called my attention to a very important book, and I believe that all municipal officials should familiarize themselves with this work entitled: **Public Library Service; A Guide to Evaluation, with Minimum Standards.** Published by the American Library Association in 1956, it is a combined product of some of the best minds in the profession of librarianship. This little book is a thoughtful and realistic yardstick for measuring our progress against our

goals and, as such, it is in indispensable tool for use in striving towards the realization of our ambitions for our libraries and for community progress in general.

May we never forget that our public libraries are priceless treasures that exist to serve the whole community through its parts. May we always remember that they must be constantly improved by the training of personnel and the acquiring of books and other library materials. May we always remember, too, that our public libraries are unique among the educational forces in our society. They are meant to show faith in individual ability to read widely and form judgments rightly. They recognize and respect individual choice and initiative. The people of a community have a right to read what they want to read, and I know of no other place in society where men have more right to find materials they wish to investigate than in our public libraries.

Mrs. Ruth W. Baxter, Veterans Administration Hospital, Jackson, and secretary of the Special Libraries Section of MLA, has received a Sustained Superior Performance Award for exceeding the job requirements of Dependability and Program Planning and Policy Determination during the most recent rating period.



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The Professional Corner

Random Remarks To Reference Librarians

By Mrs. Brainard Cheney
Associate Director
Peabody Library School
Nashville, Tenn.

"I don't want to do cataloging. I want to be a **Reference Librarian** and **Work With People!**"

Retort Courteous from Disgruntled Dean:

"Any Reference Librarian without a keen interest in cataloging isn't worth his salt in a Reference Department. How do you propose to 'Work With People' if you don't like cataloging?"

Perhaps this often-expressed remark of would-be reference librarians is one reason why the reference librarians haven't been more articulate about the proposed revision to the Cataloging Code, since only one article, that of Mr. D. R. Watkins of Yale, has voiced the concern of the reference librarian. Appearing in the May 1 issue of the **Library Journal**, it points with alarm to Rule 14a in the new code, under the heading, "Person With Surname." This states "Forenames represented by initials are spelled out when necessary to distinguish among different persons with the same surname and initials, or when desirable to avoid an ambiguity." A paragraph later in Rule 14b it states: "The dates of a person are added whenever they are readily available, or when they are necessary to distinguish among different persons of the same name." Says Mr. Watkins, "These statements are unsatisfactorily lax. They assume that, if there is 'no conflict' now, there will be none in the future. It is the function of the catalog to establish identity as nearly as possible and if necessary to go considerably beyond the information on the title page. Why

should not the cataloger do this once and for all and save time as he does the public an important service?"

This is also a concern of the ALA Reference Services Division, whose committee to study the proposed catalog code revision is headed by Mr. Watkins.

But this is not the only concern of the Reference Services Division, whose other activities embrace a number of areas in which it seeks to improve the quality of reference collections by its annual list of important reference titles, the latest of which appeared in the April 15th, 1961, issue of **Library Journal**. What do you think of it? It represented hours of work on the part of a very active committee which screened the output for 1960, selecting and annotating those which were most outstanding.

Do you long for a reference book which hasn't yet been published? If you can describe it, an RSD Committee on Needed Reference Books will be glad to investigate what can be done about it.

Would you like more opportunity to talk with other reference librarians about common problems? If so, why not form a local chapter of RSD in your city, county or state. RSD already has about a dozen scattered over the country, but none in Mississippi.

Are you concerned over standards for reference service? Assuming you are, you will be interested in the work of the recently established Committee on Standards.

Certainly this need for standards was evident to a group of librarians from abroad who toured the United States

in the fall of 1959, looking at American reference services. Visits to individual libraries with subsequent seminar discussions revealed a number of prevailing conditions and attitudes affecting reference and bibliographic services in American libraries today. The following are especially worthy of note:

1. The increasing emphasis on larger areas of service.
2. The increasing importance of the federal government libraries in bibliography and research activities.
3. The strengthening of the state library agency (in Mississippi this means in addition to the Mississippi Library Commission, the Department of Archives and History and the State Law Library), with a clearer definition of (their) responsibilities in general services, preservation of archives, library extension, library reference and in the collection of materials on state history, and state, federal and local government publications.
4. The lack of qualified personnel needed to carry out extended programs of service made possible by the Library Services Act; also the over-all need for more professionally trained librarians with strength in subject fields.
5. The need for further cooperative effort among libraries in defining responsibility for building up collections in specific fields.
6. The need for continuing attention to problems of bibliographical organization, to provide more complete access to information.
7. The need for the development of standards intended to decrease the existing inequalities between the kinds of reference service provided in the larger metropolitan areas and in small or medium-sized libraries.
8. The need for better methods of measuring the quality and quantity of reference service.

9. The recognition that good reference service must be built on strength in materials, personnel, and administrative leadership and that strong libraries must widen their areas of service.
10. The need for extending and strengthening professional education for reference librarians.
11. The effect of a growing body of reference materials, especially bibliographies and indexes on methods of locating information.
12. The importance of continuing the study of needs for new reference books and of means for effecting their publication.
13. The rapid expansion of specialized reference service in the field of science and technology.
14. The increasing use of microfilm in inter-library loans.

These are the things we should be talking about when we are gathered together. And what else?

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College Libraries

Jones Co. Junior College To Have New Library

"Approved by the Mississippi State Building Commission, \$220,338 for a new library at Jones County Junior College, Ellisville, Miss.," was the good news received by Mattie Mae Viverette, librarian, on July 13th.

The two-story brick and concrete block building will house the library on the first floor. On a lower level will be such facilities as a small auditorium, class rooms and teachers' lounge. The library itself will be 80 by 160 feet with a seating capacity of 350.

"BOOKS ON EXHIBIT" SPOTLIGHT INTEREST

A comprehensive collection of more than 1,000 new books for children and young people, sponsored by 45 publishers and known as "Books on Exhibit," held the spotlight of interest at the Mississippi College Library, July 12-21.

According to J. B. Howell, librarian, the display made it possible for teachers, librarians, and parents to do an informed job of book selection with a minimum expenditure of time and effort.

Mississippi College Library participated in the Books on Exhibit program during the summer session. Miss Nellie Ford Smith served as coordinator of the exhibit.

LORENZ ANNOUNCES APRIL INSTITUTE

An institute on "The Future of Library Education" will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, in April, 1962, sponsored by the Library Service Branch of the U. S. Office of Education and the Western Reserve University School of Library Science, it has been announced by John G. Lorenz, chief of the Branch, and Dr. Jesse H. Shera, dean of the school.

The institute will be directed toward an exploration of needed changes in emphasis and new subject content in the programs of study and research activities of library schools as indicated changes in the demographic, social, and economic character of the American people.

The work will be based on a collection of essays to appear under the title, "The Future of Library Service," edited by Frank L. Schick, Assistant Director of the Library Service Branch, and published as the July-October, 1961, issue of **Library Trends**, a quarterly journal issued by the Graduate School of Library Science of the University of Illinois.

Details for the arrangement of the institute will be handled by Barbara Denison of Western Reserve. The program and plans for registration and housing will be announced later.

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Institute On Library Education Announced

Southeastern Library Association, Committee on Library Education, Mrs. Pauline M. Foster, Chairman, announces a three-day INSTITUTE ON LIBRARY EDUCATION IN THE SOUTHEAST to be held at the University of Tennessee, Oct. 12-14, 1961. The purpose of the Institute is to develop course outlines for a basic core of library science courses which will provide a foundation for the articulation of graduate and undergraduate programs in the Southeast. It has received financial support from both ALA-LED and SELA.

Participants will be faculty from all the schools in the region offering as many as 12 semester hours in library science at the undergraduate level, directors and faculty members from the six graduate library schools in the Southeast, and consultants who have

had experience in developing the Standards for Undergraduate Library Science Programs and in the accreditation of library schools. Among the consultants are Mrs. Florrinnell F. Morton, Miss Sarah Reed, and Miss Margaret Rufsvold. They will lead the opening session on Thursday evening, presenting background information on problems of articulation and setting the stage for small group discussions in all areas of the curriculum on Friday. The Institute will conclude with a panel discussion on Saturday morning, moderated by Miss Reed.

Inquiries regarding the Institute should be addressed to Miss Dorothy E. Ryan, Chairman, Institute on Library Education in the Southeast, 308 Claxton, University of Tennessee, Knoxville 16, Tennessee.

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Applications may be obtained from Executive Secretary, Special Libraries Association, 31 East 10th St., New York 3, New York, and must be received by February 15, 1962, by the Chairman, Scholarship and Student Loan Fund Committee, at the same address.

CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL

The Civil War Centennial remains a most popular subject for library patrons at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Jackson.

Calling attention to the Civil War Centennial, Martha S. Howard, chief librarian and her staff, have on display in the library the map from the April National Geographic Battlefields of the Civil War with Descriptive Notes, showing The Confederate States of America and a Touring Guide to Battlefields.



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HISTORY OF THE "BOBBSEY" TWINS

As we have read the articles about the Bobbsey Twins recently published in the News and Courier, we remembered an account that appeared years ago in Fortune — April, 1934.

The article entitled, "For It Was Indeed He," told of Edward Stratemeyer, the author of the Bobbsey Twins, who wrote under hundreds of nom de plumes, Laura Lee Hope being one of them. Other well-known pseudonyms were Arthur M. Winfield (Rover Boys), Victor Appleton (Tom Swift), Clarence (Young Motor Boys), Roy Rockwood (Bamba), Carolyn Keene (Nancy Drew).

"For It Was Indeed He" begins with a quotation from Anthony Comstock's "Traps for the Young": "The cheap works of fiction pervert taste. They defraud the future man or woman by capturing and enslaving the young imagination. Wild fancies and exaggerations

supplant aspirations for that which ennobles and exalts."

The article goes on to tell of the work of that Homeric scribe, Edward Stratemeyer. The substances of this well-documented and scholarly article were revealing.

Stratemeyer either wrote himself or conceived for others to write over 800 books. He employed hack writers to whom he would give a three-page type-written outline in which time elements, names of characters, their destinies, were logically arranged.

These hacks were given from a week to a month to enlarge the outline into a book. Upon completing a job, writer was given from \$50 to \$250, and he released all claims to ownership. These hirelings were merely cogs in a machine. Stratemeyer never allowed them to meet one another in his office. They saw him only by appointment and the appointments never overlapped.

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Before speaking further of Stratemeyer, however, there should be said something about his predecessor, Gilbert Patten, probably the first writer to exploit the self-perpetuating series for boys about boys.

In 1896, Patten wrote the first "Frank Merriwell" under the pseudonym of Burt L. Standish. Before he finished, Patten wrote 775 Merriwell books. It was "Frank Merriwell" that Stratemeyer used as his pattern for the "Rover Boys." There was one essential difference, however, the Merriwell books were sold for a nickel. Parents who appraised literature in terms of cash felt that the Merriwells were undesirable. Clever Mr. Stratemeyer, however, who wrote the same things, put his novels in board covers and sold them at prices varying from a dollar to twenty-five cents.

The Rover Boys came out under the pseudonym of Arthur M. Winfield, for at the very beginning of his career, Stratemeyer decided that he must have a nom de plume. Arthur was chosen as the nearest approach to author; M. was chosen to represent the millions of copies of his books which he hoped to see in print; Winfield expressed his idea of winning in his chosen field. Incidentally, he died a millionaire.

One of Stratemeyer's most powerful opponents was Franklin Mathiews, chief librarian of the Boy Scouts of America. The state of literature in the early 1900's appalled Mr. Mathiews. He took action by going to Grosset and Dunlap, who also published Stratemeyer, and induced them to reprint in

50-cent editions the works of better authors — Altsheiler, Barbour, Heyliger.

Mr. Mathiews then wrote an article for The Outlook entitled, "Blowing Out the Boy's Brains."

Mr. Mathiews wrote: "One of the most valuable assets a boy has is his imagination. Story books of the right sort stimulate and conserve this noble faculty. The cheaper sort by overstimulation debauch and vitiate as brain and body are debauched and vitiated by strong drink."

"Blowing Out the Boy's Brains" swept the country. In one large city mothers stood in book stores begging the would-be purchasers not to buy the items criticized. Disgruntled booksellers packed up their Tom Swifts, etc., etc., and shipped them back to the publishers.

Stratemeyer was furious. He threatened to sue but was told by Grosset and Dunlap if he did, they would be compelled to take sides, and they were not sure which side they would choose.

Stratemeyer's biography has never been written. Many have wanted to write it, but his daughters who have carried on the Stratemeyer office have refused to give consent.

Fortune concludes "It Was Indeed He" with this paragraph: "But the fifty cents juvenile is not dead. Not by a long shot. Publishers will tell you today that even such moss-backed old standbys as the "Rover Boys" are Rip Van Winkle-like coming back to life. Tripe they were in the beginning, tripe they are now, and tripe they always will be. But a wise publisher knows to his profit that they are pap to the maturing mind and most delectable pap to boot."

☆ ☆ ☆

(The above article was written by Junie Smith, Children's Librarian of the Charleston Free Library, Charleston, S. C., and appeared in the South Carolina Library Bulletin May, 1956.)



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